

JACOBINI CHARLES
77 BUENOS AIRES 4638

54

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 01 BUENOS 04638 01 OF 02 222034Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00
IO-13 (ISO) W

-----051032 230357Z /64

R 221858Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1040

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 4638

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SHUM, AR, US, EFIN

SUBJECT: GOA NOTES HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 138380, (B) BUENOS AIRES 4444, (C) BUENOS AIRES 4483

SUMMARY: AS ANTICIPATED IN DEMARCHES BY MARTINEZ DE HOZ IN

BUENOS AIRES (REFTEL B) AND AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL IN

WASHINGTON (REFTEL A), ARGENTINE OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED A

NUMBER OF ACTIONS JUNE 14 THAT BEAR ON THE COUNTRY'S HUMAN

RIGHTS IMAGE OVERSEAS. THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS INCLUDE THE RELEASE

OF 342 PERSONS FROM EXECUTIVE CUSTODY, PROCESSING OF ALMOST

1,000 SUBVERSIVE CASES IN FEDERAL AND MINISTRIAL COURTS,

POSSIBLE REINSTATEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF

OPTION TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, AND BANNING OF TWO ISSUES

OF A FAR RIGHT, RACIST MAGAZINE. WHILE THE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN

THEMSELVES SHOW LITTLE BY WAY OF CERTIFIABLE SUBSTANTIVE

CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES, THE

GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO COMPILE EXAMPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS

IMPROVEMENTS DEMONSTRATES ITS RISING SENSITIVITY TO THE

SERIOUSNESS OF THE U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POSITION AND OUR

ADVERSE VOTES IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

END SUMMARY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 02 BUENOS 04638 01 OF 02 222034Z

1. AS NOTED IN REPTEL B, GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA'S (GOA'S)

PRESENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENTS DEMONSTRATES BASICALLY

FRIENDLY GESTURES AND INCREASED CONCERN ON THE PART OF GOA

OFFICIALS TO MAINTAIN POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP IN

RESPONSE TO U.S. REPRESENTATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION. THE

LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN, HOWEVER, SHOWS LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE.

AS ANTICIPATED, THE GOA ACTIONS AND COMMUNIQUE WERE RELEASED

JUNE 14 AND PUBLISHED IN JUNE 15 PRESS.

2. AS A 15-DAY COMPENDIUM THE LISTING OF 342 PERSONS CITED AS

NO LONGER BEING HELD AT THE DISPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE IS

CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN THE TYPICAL WEEKLY LISTS PUT OUT BY

THE INTERIOR MINISTRY. FURTHER, THERE IS NO WAY IMMEDIATELY

TO VERIFY THAT PERSONS LISTED HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN RELEASED.

(MARTINEZ DE HOZ DID, HOWEVER, TELL CHARGE THAT THE PERSONS

LISTED WERE DEFINITELY BEING PHYSICALLY RELEASED FROM

DETENTION AND NOT JUST PASSED TO OTHER AUTHORITIES.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP

PAGE 1

Change to

() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify

Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526-25x () ()

Declassify after

With concurrence of:

JACOBINI CHARLES
77 BUENOS AIRES 4638

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3. AS FOR SPECIFIC CASES, THREE OF THE NAMES WERE FAMILIAR--
DAVID DIVINSKY AND HIS WIFE ANA MARIA MILER, BOOK PUBLISHERS
LISTED AS RELEASED FROM EXECUTIVE CUSTODY FOR SUBVERSIVE
CRIMES; AND JUAN CARLOS ROUSSELOT, LISTED AS RELEASED FROM
CUSTODY FOR ECONOMIC CRIMES. AS OF JUNE 16, NEITHER MILER NOR
DIVINSKY HAS YET BEEN RELEASED ACCORDING TO FAMILY FRIENDS. WE
ARE TRYING TO VERIFY THESE CASES AS POSSIBLE INDICATORS AS TO
USUAL PATE OF LISTED PERSONS. SINCE THE LISTS BEGAN BEING
PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN JANUARY, WE HAVE VERIFIED AND REPORTED
SEVERAL ACTUAL RELEASES, ALTHOUGH MANY EMBASSY SOURCES,
INCLUDING VISITORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF CHURCH AND HUMAN
RIGHTS GROUPS, CLAIM THAT THE MAJORITY OF PERSONS LISTED REMAIN
IN DETENTION. (THIS COULD RESULT PARTIALLY FROM DEFIANCE OF
INTERIOR MINISTRY ORDERS, AND PARTLY FROM BUREAUCRATIC
INCOMPETENCE OF FEDERAL AND MILITARY PRISON AUTHORITIES.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 03

BUENOS 04638 01 OF 02 222034Z

PERMANENT ASSEMBLY DIRECTOR JOSE WESTERKAMP (WHO HOSTED
PATRICIA DERIAN'S MEETING WITH ASSEMBLY IN MARCH) TOLD EMBOFF
ON JUNE 14 ABOUT THE PARTICULAR CASE OF A BOY JAILED WITH
WESTERKAMP'S SON IN SIERRA CHICA PRISON WHOSE NAME HAS APPEARED
TWICE ON THE RELEASE LISTS AND ONCE ON THE LIST OF PERSONS
NEWLY DETAINED BY THE EXECUTIVE. THE BOY HIMSELF WAS NEVER
INFORMED OF THE PUBLICATION OF ANY OF THE LISTS AND HIS STATUS
AS A DETAINEE UNDER STATE OF SIEGE PROVISIONS HAS IN FACT
REMAINED UNCHANGED FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COMBINED ROOM
WASHINGTON (SECRET V) VICEPRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCED V
BUENOS AIRES (SECRET B) AND WASHINGTON FOR EMBIT IN
2000000: V2 UNCLASSIFIED IN DECLASSIFIED BY WASHINGTON DE NOS IN
REF: (A) 2146 12300 (B) BUENOS AIRES 0444 (C) BUENOS AIRES 0444
SUBJECT: GOV NOTES HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENTS
1402: 0000 2000 00 02 00 00
E.O. 12958: 002
CONFIDENTIALITY SECTION 1 OF 5 BUENOS AIRES 0444
10 SECRETARY ADVISED 1440
EM WASHINGTON BUENOS AIRES
B 000000 1000 00

-----001000 000000 000
10-12 (120) A
24-00 22-12 0014-00 VID-00 VCDV-00 OWB-01 152E-00
H-01 140-00 T-00 0201-00 020-00 BV-01 002-01
1700 001-01 120-00 00-00 100-00 CIVL-00 DODE-00 00-00
ACTION 000-01
PAGE 01 BUENOS 04400 01 OF 00 000000
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

00 BUENOS AIRES 0440
JACOBINI CHARLES

JACOBINI CHARLES
77 BUENOS AIRES 4638

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 01 BUENOS 04638 02 OF 02 222035Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00
IO-13 (ISO) W

-----051019 230354Z /64

R 221858Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1041

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 4638

4. THE INTERIOR MINISTRY STATEMENT THAT 667 SUBVERSIVE CASES HAVE BEEN REMANDED TO THE FEDERAL COURTS (WITH 327 SENTENCES PASSED) AND 305 CASES SENT TO SPECIAL MILITARY COURTS MARTIAL (WITH 158 SENTENCES HANDED DOWN) APPEARED IN PRESS

WITHOUT NAMES OR COMMENTARY. AS VERY FEW OF THESE TALKS AND SUBSEQUENT SENTENCING HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRESS OR INDEPENDENTLY CONFIRMED BY EMBOFFS, WE CANNOT COMMENT ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT.

5. PRESIDENT VIDELA'S REPORTED INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORITIES TO ANALYZE THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE SUSPENDED CONSTITUTIONAL OPTION FOR PERSONS BEING HELD UNDER STATE OF SIEGE PROVISIONS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY RECALLS HIS EARLIER APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION CHAIRED BY INTERIOR MINISTER HARGUINDEGUY TO REVIEW THE SUSPENSION LAST APRIL. AS A RESULT OF THE COMMISSION'S DELIBERATIONS AT THAT TIME, LEGISLATION WAS PASSED TO EXTEND THE SUSPENSION FOR ANOTHER 150 DAYS BEGINNING MAY 1, 1977. IT IS NOT YET KNOWN WHETHER THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS MEAN THE OPTION WILL BE CONSIDERED MORE FAVORABLY IN THE NEAR FUTURE OR WILL ACTUALLY BE REINSTATED BEFORE THE PRESENT 150 DAYS SUSPENSION IS UP IN SEPTEMBER.

6. GOA SUSPENSION OF THE DISTRIBUTION, SALE, AND CIRCULATION OF THE MAY-JUNE CABILDO ISSUE NO. 8 WAS OF INTEREST. THE MAGAZINE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 02 BUENOS 04638 02 OF 02 222035Z

WAS ACCUSED OF "PROPAGATING IDEOLOGICAL-RACIAL CONFLICT IN OPPOSITION TO THE NATION'S OBJECTIVES." THE DECREE FURTHER PROHIBITED THE PRINTING AND CIRCULATION OF THE JULY ISSUE AND "ANY OTHER THAT ATTEMPTS TO REPLACE IT." THE BAN DOES NOT, HOWEVER, AFFECT THE MAGAZINE'S ADMINISTRATIVE OR PUBLISHING CAPACITY BEYOND THE TWO ISSUES, AND THIS SHORT TERM SUSPENSION DOES LITTLE TO UNDO THE STRIDENT ANTI-SEMITIC RHETORIC OF THE APRIL CABILDO, ISSUE NO. 7. IT WAS THIS WHICH PROMPTED PROTESTS BY JEWISH GROUPS IN ARGENTINA AND OCCASIONED LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS COMMENTARY (SEE BA 3370 AND 3631).

7. COMMENT: THIS FLURRY OF STATEMENTS TO THE PUBLIC ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS UNDERTAKEN WITH THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE U.S. VOTE ON TWO LARGE BANK LOANS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THIS COUNTRY. THE GOVERNMENT-INTERVENED LA OPINION ON JUNE 16 FLATLY STATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S RECENT ACTIONS WERE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 3

JACOBINI CHARLES
7 BUENOS AIRES 4638

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SIGNIFICANT MEASURES TO COUNTERACT ACCUSATIONS FROM ABROAD AND
IMPROVE THE COUNTRY'S IMAGE OVERSEAS: (NO OTHER PAPER HAS
COMMENTED EDITORIALY ON THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS TO DATE.)
OF INTEREST, IS WHETHER THIS INITIATIVE WAS NOTHING MORE THAN
WARMED OVER STATISTICS AND SMOKE SCREEN GESTURES OR WHETHER SOME
NEW ELEMENT HAS BEEN ADDED TO ARGENTINE EFFORTS IN THIS FIELD.
OUR CONCLUSION AFTER STUDYING THIS LATEST "EVIDENCE"--MUCH LIKE
OUR INITIAL IMPRESSIONS REPORTED IN REF B--IS THAT THE
INITIATIVE IS HOLLOW FROM THE SUBSTANTIVE SIDE, BUT INTERESTING
AND ENCOURAGING IN WHAT IT DEMONSTRATES ABOUT RISING ARGENTINE
BUREAUCRATIC SENSITIVITY CONCERNING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE U.S. HUMAN
RIGHTS POSITION.

CHAPLIN
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10
2. b1
SIGNIFICANT
INDEPENDENTLY CONSIDERED BY ARGENTINE PRESS COMMENT ON THE
SUSPECTED PENALIZING HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRESS ON
WITHOUT NAMES OF COMMENTARY. AS AREA LEM OF THESE LINKS AND
(WITH 128 SENTENCES HANDLED DOWN) APPEARED IN PRESS
BASED) AND 202 CASES SENT TO SPECIAL WITNESS COMBOS WELIIVT.
HAVE BEEN REMOVED TO THE RELEVANT COMBOS (WITH 233 SENTENCES
4. THE INTERIOR MINISTRY STATEMENT THAT 603 SUBVERSIVE CASES
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF S BUENOS AIRES 4638
TO SECRETARY WASHDC 1941
EW WASHDC 1941
B SSS8222 10W 33

10-12 (120) M
25-65 22-12 0214-66 VID-66 VCDV-66 CME-61 1822-66
H-61 INH-66 F-66 WAVE-66 W20-66 BV-61 L22-61
INFO CCL-61 120-66 EP-66 DEW-66 CIVE-66 CODE-66 1W-64
ACTION VAV-J4
PAGE 61
CONFIDENTIAL

CARTER LIBRARY
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
STAFF MATERIAL
North/South
PASTOR, Country

BOX: 1
Folder: ARGENTINA, 2-12/77